

PATENTS

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Christopher J. Hess, et al.

**Examiner:** Unassigned

**Serial No:** To be assigned

**Art Unit:** Unassigned

**Filed:** Herewith

**Docket:** 14834 (ETH-1540/CONT)

**For:** VESSEL HARVESTING  
RETRACTOR WITH  
ELECTROSURGICAL PLUNGER

**Dated:** July 2, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. Re. 36,043, resissued January 12, 1999, issued to Knighton;
2. U.S. Patent No. 5,591,183, dated January 7, 1997, issued to Chin;
3. U.S. Patent No. 5,593,418, dated January 14, 1997, issued to Mollenauer;

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"**

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Date of Deposit: July 2, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 2, 2003.

Dated: July 2, 2003

  
July 2, 2003

4. U.S. Patent No. 5,601,581, dated February 11, 1997, issued to Fogarty et al.;
5. U.S. Patent No. 5,667,480, dated September 16, 1997, issued to Knight et al.;
6. U.S. Patent No. 5,695,514, dated December 9, 1997, issued to Chin;
7. U.S. Patent No. No. 5,722,934, dated March 3, 1998, issued to Knight et al.;
8. U.S. Patent No. 5,725,479, dated March 10, 1998, issued to Knight et al.;
9. U.S. Patent No. 5,730,748, dated March 24, 1998, issued to Fogarty et al.;
10. U.S. Patent No. 5,797,947, dated August 25, 1998, issued to Mollenauer;
11. U.S. Patent No. 5,817,013, dated October 6, 1998, issued to Ginn et al.;
12. U.S. Patent No. 5,836,945, dated November 17, 1998, issued to Perkins;
13. U.S. Patent No. 5,853,417, dated December 29, 1998, issued to Fogarty et al.;
14. U.S. Patent No. 5,873,889, dated February 23, 1999, issued to Chin;
15. U.S. Patent No. 5,876,413, dated March 2, 1999, issued to Fogarty et al.;
16. U.S. Patent No. 5,891,140, dated April 6, 1999, issued to Ginn et al.;
17. U.S. Patent No. 5,899,913, dated May 4, 1999, issued to Fogarty et al.;
18. U.S. Patent No. 5,902,316, dated May 11, 1999, issued to Mollenauer;
19. U.S. Patent No. 5,916,233, dated June 29, 1999, issued to Chin;
20. U.S. Patent No. 5,922,004, dated July 13, 1999, issued to DuBois;
21. U.S. Patent No. 5,928,135, dated July 27, 1999, issued to Knight et al.;
22. U.S. Patent No. 5,938,680, dated August 17, 1999, issued to Ginn;
23. U.S. Patent No. 5,968,065, dated October 19, 1999, issued to Chin;
24. U.S. Patent No. 5,968,066, dated October 19, 1999, issued to Fogarty et al.;
25. U.S. Patent No. 5,970,982, dated October 26, 1999, issued to Perkins;
26. U.S. Patent No. 5,972,010, dated October 26, 1999, issued to Taheri;

27. U.S. Patent No. 5,976,168, dated November 2, 1999, issued to Chin;
28. U.S. Patent No. 5,980,549, dated November 9, 1999, issued to Chin;
29. U.S. Patent No. 5,984,937, dated November 16, 1999, issued to Morse et al.;
30. U.S. Patent No. 6,019,771, dated February 1, 2000, issued to Bennett et al.;
31. U.S. Patent No. 6,022,313, dated February 8, 2000, issued to Ginn et al.;
32. U.S. Patent No. 6,036,713, dated March 14, 2000, issued to Kieturakis;
33. U.S. Patent No. 6,036,714, dated March 14, 2000, issued to Chin;
34. U.S. Patent No. 6,042,538, dated March 28, 2000, issued to Puskas;
35. U.S. Patent No. 6,059,802, dated May 9, 2000, issued to Ginn;
36. U.S. Patent No. 6,068,639, dated May 30, 2000, issued to Fogarty et al.;
37. U.S. Patent No. 6,071,232, dated June 6, 2000, issued to Knighton et al.;
38. U.S. Patent No. 6,120,434, dated September 19, 2000, issued to Kimura et al.;
39. U.S. Patent No. 6,139,489, dated October 31, 2000, issued to Wampler et al.;
40. U.S. Patent No. US 5,366,476, dated November 1994, issued to Noda;
41. U.S. Patent No. US 6,080,102, dated June 2000, issued to Konou et al.;
42. PCT Application No. WO 00/15116, dated March 23, 2000;
43. PCT Application No. WO 99/66842, dated December 29, 1999; and
44. European Patent Application No. EP 0 979 635 A2, dated February 16, 2000.

Applicants are not submitting copies of the above-cited references as references 1-39 and 42-44 were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement filed November 26, 2001 and references 40 and 41 were previously cited by the Examiner in connection with co-pending U.S. serial number 09/966,858 filed on September 28, 2001.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Spinelli

Registration No.: 39,533

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Garden City, New York 11530  
(516) 742-4343

TS:cm

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
*(Use several sheets if necessary)*

Docket Number (Optional) <b>14834 (ETH-1540/CONT)</b>	Application Number <b>T be assigned</b>
Applicant(s) <b>Christopher J. Hess, et al.</b>	
Filing Date <b>Herewith</b>	Group Art Unit <b>Unassigned</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		Re. 36,043	1/12/99	Knighton			
		5,591,183	1/7/97	Chin			
		5,593,418	1/14/97	Mollenauer			
		5,601,581	2/11/97	Fogarty et al.			
		5,667,480	9/16/97	Knight et al.			
		5,695,514	12/9/97	Chin			
		5,722,934	3/3/98	Knight et al.			
		5,725,479	3/10/98	Knight et al.			
		5,730,748	3/24/98	Fogarty et al.			
		5,797,947	8/25/98	Mollenauer			
		5,817,013	10/6/98	Ginn et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	WO 00/15116	3/23/00	PCT				
	WO 99/66842	12/29/99	PCT				
	EP 0 979 635 A2	2/16/00	EPO				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*


**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
*(Use several sheets if necessary)*

Docket Number (Optional)

**14834Z 9ETH-1540-CONT**

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Filing Date

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		<b>5,836,945</b>	<b>11/17/1998</b>	<b>Perkins</b>			
		<b>5,853,417</b>	<b>12/29/1998</b>	<b>Fogarty et al.</b>			
		<b>5,873,889</b>	<b>2/23/1999</b>	<b>Chin</b>			
		<b>5,876,413</b>	<b>3/2/1999</b>	<b>Fogarty et al.</b>			
		<b>5,891,140</b>	<b>4/6/1999</b>	<b>Ginn et al.</b>			
		<b>5,899,913</b>	<b>5/4/1999</b>	<b>Fogarty et al.</b>			
		<b>5,902,316</b>	<b>5/11/1999</b>	<b>Mollenauer</b>			
		<b>5,916,233</b>	<b>6/29/1999</b>	<b>Chin</b>			
		<b>5,922,004</b>	<b>7/13/1999</b>	<b>DuBois</b>			
		<b>5,928,135</b>	<b>7/27/1999</b>	<b>Knight et al.</b>			
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*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		<b>5,968,065</b>	<b>10/19/1999</b>	<b>Chin</b>			
		<b>5,968,066</b>	<b>10/19/1999</b>	<b>Fogarty et al.</b>			
		<b>5,970,982</b>	<b>10/26/1999</b>	<b>Perkins</b>			
		<b>5,972,010</b>	<b>10/26/1999</b>	<b>Taheri</b>			
		<b>5,976,168</b>	<b>11/2/1999</b>	<b>Chin</b>			
		<b>5,980,549</b>	<b>11/9/1999</b>	<b>Chin</b>			
		<b>5,984,937</b>	<b>11/16/1999</b>	<b>Morse et al.</b>			
		<b>6,019,771</b>	<b>2/1/2000</b>	<b>Bennett et al.</b>			
		<b>6,022,313</b>	<b>2/8/2000</b>	<b>Ginn et al.</b>			
		<b>6,036,713</b>	<b>3/14/2000</b>	<b>Kieturakis</b>			
		<b>6,036,714</b>	<b>3/14/2000</b>	<b>Chin</b>			

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		<b>6,059,802</b>	<b>5/9/2000</b>	<b>Ginn</b>			
		<b>6,068,639</b>	<b>5/30/2000</b>	<b>Fogarty et al.</b>			
		<b>6,071,232</b>	<b>6/6/2000</b>	<b>Knighton et al.</b>			
		<b>6,120,434</b>	<b>9/19/2000</b>	<b>Kimura et al.</b>			
		<b>6,139,489</b>	<b>10/31/2000</b>	<b>Wampler et al.</b>			
		<b>US 5,366,476</b>	<b>11/1994</b>	<b>Noda</b>			
		<b>US 6,080,102</b>	<b>6/2000</b>	<b>Konou et al.</b>			
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